

THE BREEDING BIRD SEASON, 1978

June was delightfully sunny and dry with comfortable, near normal temperatures. The highest temperature was 89° on the 28th, with the lowest temperature of 52° on the 14th and 15th. Rain totaled only 1.53". Fog was frequent early in the month and again in the latter part, with heavy fog on the 20th and 21st.

July weather was nearly a carbon copy of June, being sunny and dry with cool comfortable temperatures. The mercury averaged 72.1°, 1.2° below normal and 2.8° lower than the hot July of 1977. The 19th-23rd was a five-day stretch with 90° or higher each day, culminating with a high 99° on the 23rd. July 4, or Independence Day, was truly remarkable weather-wise. Rain fell each hour; this was the first 4th with no sunshine since 1941. The temperature rose only to 60°, the lowest maximum on this holiday in 107 years on record. Rain totaled only 1.48", with .81" on the 4th.

On June 17, the 2nd Greater Boston Breeding Bird Count (GBBBC) was held. The area covered is the same as the annual Christmas Bird Count. More on this will follow in an upcoming Bird Observer.

LOONS

Common Loon:

6/4,16	Off Chatham, Mamomet	10,11	BBC(HD'E)
			RSH
7/3,18	P.I., Barnstable(S.N.)	5,12	JWB, MFL, BAL

Red-throated Loon:

6/4	Off Chatham	3	BBC(HD'E)
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TUBENOSES

Once again, as last year, huge concentrations of tubenoses were noted on Georges Bank during June, this time closely affiliated with local American and Canadian cod and haddock fishing operations present on the northern edge. Because of these enormous but local gatherings around such easily obtainable food, pelagics can seem quite uncommon elsewhere on Georges. The question as to whether these concentrations would occur in the absence of a fishing fleet remains unsolved. Note the estimate of 8000+ Northern Fulmar from the northern edge of Georges on June 11th (95% light phase), as this species continues to increase in the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank. Sooty Shearwaters were unusually abundant in inshore waters during early June. A count of 1450 made off Chatham from a BBC boat trip June 14th may be the largest number ever recorded from New England coastal waters. North-east winds and rain on July 4th brought numbers of shearwaters and Gannets to Cape Cod Bay, and smaller numbers were observed streaming east past Race Pt., Provincetown, under northwest winds on the 5th. Wilson's Storm-Petrels were particularly scarce this year, with no large concentrations noted.

Northern Fulmar:

6/4,9	Off Chatham, Stellwagen Bank	5,3	BBC(HD'E)
			JG
6/11	Off Gloucester, Georges Bank (N.edge)	2, 8000+	MJK#, RRV

Cory's Shearwater:				
6/14	75 mi.s.of Nantucket	4		RRV
Greater Shearwater:				
6/4,9	Off Chatham,Stellwagen Bank	500,3		BBC(HD'E),JG
6/7,11	N.edge of Georges Bank	<u>21,600,</u>		RRV
		<u>50,000+</u>		
7/4,5	Barnstable(S.N.),Province	<u>2000+</u> ,		RFP,RSH & B.A.
	Provincetown	500+		Shockey
7/1,9,16	Off Gloucester	35,40,166		JG,EP#,HD'E
Sooty Shearwater:				
6/4,4,7	Off Chatham;Monomoy,Georges	<u>1450;15,</u>		BBC(HD'E)
	Bank	<u>14,400</u>		RRV
6/9,11	Stellwagen Bank,off Glou-	15,8		JG#,MJK#
	cester			
6/10,24	Barnstable(S.N.)	40,7		MFL,BAL
7/4,5	Barnstable(S.N.),Province-	100,35		RFP,RSH & MPS
	town (Race Pt.)			
7/9,16	Off Gloucester	3,25		EP#,HD'E
Manx Shearwater:				
6/4,7-10	Off Chatham,Georges Bank	3,1-3		BBC(HD'E),RRV
	(north edge)			
6/11	Off Gloucester	1		MJK,SG#
7/4	Manomet Pt.,Rockport,Barn-	2,3,5+		WRP,GLS#,RFP
	stable (S.N.)			
7/5,9	Provincetown(Race Pt.),off	2,4		RSH#,EP & SG
	Gloucester			
7/16,30	Off Gloucester,P.I.	1,2		HD'E,GLS#
Leach's Storm Petrel:				
6/7-11	N.edge Georges Bank	4-5		RRV
Wilson's Storm Petrel:				
6/4,7-11	Off Chatham,Georges Bank	100,1000		BBC(HD'E),RRV
	(N.edge)			
7/1,4	Off Gloucester,Barnstable	3,4		JG,GAW#
	(S.N.)			
7/5,16	Provincetown(Race Pt.),off	6,50		RSH#,HD'E
	Gloucester			
Gannet:				
6/4	Off Chatham	30		BBC(HD'E)
7/4	Manomet Pt.,Barnstable	15,50+,35		WRP,RFP,GLS#
	(S.N.),Rockport			
7/5	Eastham,Provincetown(Race	19 sub-ads,		
	Pt.)	3		RSH & MPS
Double-crested Cormorant:				
6/17,21	Greater Boston,Woods Hole	71,70+		GBBBC,RSH
7/10	P.I.	70		BBC(GLS)

HERONS

The following table reports the estimates of nesting pairs of herons on House Is., Manchester (R,A,Forster), and an actual count of nests by Dr. William Davis and Link Smith, in their study of the heronry on Clark's Is., Duxbury:

	House Is.	Clark's Is.
Little Blue Heron	10	2
Cattle Egret	10	0 (approx.6 pair last year)
Great Egret	1	10
Snowy Egret	250	241
Black-crowned Night Heron	400	203
Glossy Ibis	65	20

Apparently Cattle Egrets did not return to nest at Clark's Island this year, as they have done annually in recent breeding seasons. Likewise, Louisiana Herons were not found nesting at House Is. this year, the site of the first state nesting record in 1976. However, Louisianas frequenting some of the Boston Harbor islands were suspected of nesting in the vicinity. Stage Is. Pool, near the south end of P.I., appears to be a staging area for Snowy Egrets at dusk, after which the birds fly 10 miles south to the House Is. colony. Last summer postbreeding birds and young of the year gathered in large numbers each evening to roost in the Hellcat North Pool, P.I., where they apparently spend the night.

Great Blue Heron:

June	5 localities	13 individuals	v.o.
July	4 localities	6 individuals	v.o.

Green Heron:

7/2,23 thr. July	Bolton, Concord (GMNWR) P.I.	4,2 7	BBC(HLM), BBC(GWG) BBC(PA)#
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Little Blue Heron:

6/23	P.I.	1 imm.	RMB#
7/10-31	P.I.	1 ad.	BBC(GLS)#
7/12,29	Scituate(Third Cliff), E. Boston	1 ad., 1 imm.	WRP, CJ & SZ

Cattle Egret:

6/17,30 thr. June	Topsfield, Manchester Ipswich	1-2,4 max.10	GD'E#, HTW JWB
7/4,7,14	Topsfield, Marshfield, Rehobeth	6,3,14	SZ, WRP, RMB
7/18,31	Topsfield, Marshfield	19,5	WRP, RKW

Great Egret:

6/3,17	P.I., Ipswich	1,2	EP, BBC(JWB)
7/1,2	Annisquam, Middleboro	1,1	HTW, WRP & KSA
7/10-29	P.I.	max.7	RPE#

Snowy Egret:

6/17	Ipswich	30+	BBC(JWB)
6/17,26	P.I.	20,24	GD'E, BBC(SDH)
7/3,10	P.I.	40,85	JWB, BBC(GLS)
7/17,18	P.I.(Stage Is. Pool)	250-300, 370	WRP#, GWG
7/29	E. Boston, Rowley	90,68	SZ, RHS#
7/30	Monomoy, W. Bridgewater	20,1	BBC(CJ), WRP
7/31	Brookfield	1 imm.	BB

Louisiana Heron:

6/3-17;20,26	Squantum; P.I.	1;1,1	JG#; S.Hockman, BBC(SDH)
7/3,20	Monomoy	1,2	J.Fisk, V.Laux

7/3-31,21	P.I.,Rowley	1-2,1	v.o.,HTW
Black-crowned Night Heron:			
6/3,17	Plymouth,Greater Boston	20,59	BBC(HD'E),GBBBC
7/10,24	P.I.	7,12	BBC(GLS),BBC(SDH)
7/15	Concord (GMNWR)	4	RKW
Yellow-crowned Night Heron:			
July	Eastham,Wellfleet(WBWS)	2 imm.,1	DF
7/3,5,17	Bernardston,Ipswich,P.I.	1,2 ad., 1 ad.	L.Mullen,Mr.&Mrs.RMc BBC(Olivers)
Least Bittern:			
6/17,23	P.I.	1,2	GD'E#,RMB#
7/3,9,15,31;24	P.I.	singles;2	v.o.;GWG
7/15	Concord(GMNWR)	1	RKW
American Bittern:			
6/12,25	W.Newbury,Ipswich	1,1	GLS#,MM
7/1,23	Brookfield,Milton(FM)	2,2	W.Kenney,BBC(MD)
Glossy Ibis:			
6/1,11,17	Marshfield,W.Bridgewater, P.I.	10,11,10	E.Mattie,WRP, BBC(GD'E)
6/12,26	Nantucket,P.I.	1,13	GC,HC,BBC(SDH)
7/16,21	P.I.	46,40-50	RRV,RSH
7/29;30	Rowley,E.Boston;Halifax	6,17;10	RHS#,CJ#;WRP

WATERFOWL

Brant:			
6/3,10	Plymouth,Marion(Bird Is.)	1,1	BBC(HD'E),RAF#
6/12	Monomoy	4	RSH
7/12,28	Plymouth,Duxbury	1,1	RSH
thr.July	Monomoy	1	v.o.
Gadwall:			
6/11,17,26	Concord(GMNWR),Ipswich,P.I.	4,6,20	BBC(MD),BBC(JWB), BBC(SDH)
7/10	P.I.	40	BBC(GLS)
Pintail:			
6/20	P.I.	2 m.	S.Hockman
Green-winged Teal:			
6/17,26	Concord(GMNWR),P.I.	2,7	BBC(AC),BBC(SDH)
7/10,31	P.I.	2,7	BBC(GLS)#
7/29	Concord(GMNWR)	6	BBC(EWT)
Blue-winged Teal:			
6/15,17	P.I.,Concord(GMNWR)	20,2	RSH,BBC(AC)
7/2;10,17	Middleboro;P.I.	1;10,20	WRP#;BBC(GLS), BBC(HLJ)
7/29,30	Concord(GMNWR),W.Bridgewater	4,1	BBC(EWT),WRP
American Wigeon:			
7/17	P.I.	1	GWG
Northern Shoveller:			
6/26	P.I.	2	BBC(SDH)
7/17	P,I,	2	GWG
Wood Duck:			
6/17	Concord(GMNWR)	6+ ads., 40 young	BBC(AC)
7/16,23	Concord(GMNWR)	14 ads. & 17 yg.	BBC(BC),BBC(GWG)

7/15,18	Lynnfield,Woburn(Horn Pond)	f. & 6 yg.,RHS,GWG f. & 7 yg.	
Oldsquaw:			
7/5,8	Scituate(Third Cliff)	1	WRP
thr. July	Chatham(Stage Harbor)	2	v.o.
Common Eider:			
7/6	Duxbury Beach	<u>250</u> sub-ads.	RSH
7/29	Winthrop,Gloucester	29,4	CJ & SZ,JWB
White-winged Scoter:			
6/4,17	Monomoy,Squantum	1,4	RRV & MJL,GBBBC
7/29	Gloucester	8-10	JWB
Surf Scoter:			
7/1,12	Buzzards Bay,Plymouth	6,8	WRP,RSH
Black Scoter:			
7/4,12,29	Rockport,Plymouth, Gloucester	2,9,20	GLS#,RSH,JWB
Ruddy Duck:			
thr. July	P.I.	3+ nesting prs.	v.o.
Red-breasted Merganser:			
6/11,17,23	Monomoy,Squantum,Ipswich	11,1,1	RSH#,DTB,JN
7/30	Monomoy	4 ad. & <u>1 downy yg.</u>	BBC(CJ)
	(first recent breeding record for Massachusetts)		

VULTURES, HAWKS, EAGLES

Turkey Vultures were much in evidence during June and July, when a total of 14 individuals was reported, this undoubtedly being a continuation of the excellent flight observed this spring. The discovery of two nesting pairs of Cooper's Hawks, one from Stow, and a nest with three young in Lancaster, was exceptional and represents the only recent confirmed breeding records for the state. Unlike Goshawks, Cooper's Hawks don't defend the nest site, but tend to be extremely shy and retiring, often slipping off the nest before they can be seen by an approaching observer. Considering this elusiveness around the nest site, it is quite likely that Cooper's Hawk nests may have gone undetected in Massachusetts in the past. Sightings of individual Cooper's of unreported age came from Horn Pond, Woburn, and Annisquam. Marsh Hawks are mostly restricted to offshore islands such as Nantucket, the Vineyard, Monomoy, Nomans Land, and the Elizabeth Islands, as breeders; however, a pair may be resident in W. Newbury, and a male harrier was seen engaging in aerial courtship display several times in S. Wellfleet (WBWS). Two immature Bald Eagles and an immature Golden Eagle, all at coastal localities, were sighted during June and July.

Turkey Vulture:			
6/1,10,11,14	Hingham,Webster,Princeton, Lincoln	singles	BT,JJC,HLM, F.Walkey
6/16,24	Marston's Mills,Manomet; Medfield	1,3,3	PT,MBO staff, JHM
7/2,11	Canton,Bolton;Norwell	singles	WRP,BBC(HLM),WRP
Goshawk:			
thr. June	Framingham,Boxford	nest w/2 yg., nesting pair	RAF,v.o.
6/11	Princeton	1	HLM
7/6,11	Concord(GMNWR),Concord	1 ad.,1	WRP,PRB

Cooper's Hawk:			
6/6 thr. July	Lancaster	<u>nest with 3 yg.</u>	HLM
June-July	Stow	<u>nesting pair</u>	M, Olmstead
7/11	Annisquam	1	HTW
Red-tailed Hawk:			
thr. June	14 localities	20 individuals	v.o.
Red-shouldered Hawk:			
6/4;10	Littleton; Webster, Annisquam	1 imm.; 1,2	JB:JJC,HTW
6/11	Plymouth, Princeton	1,2	JJC,HLM
7/2	Ipswich, E. Brimfield, Bolton	singles	JWB,RAF,BBC(HLM)
Broad-winged Hawk:			
6/17	Greater Boston	10	GBBBC
thr. June	6 localities	12 individuals	v.o.
7/2	<u>Monomoy</u>	1 imm.	BN,CAG,V.Laux
Golden Eagle:			
6/24	Yarmouthport dump	1 imm.	ICTN
Bald Eagle:			
6/7	Clark's Is., Duxbury	1 imm.	RSH
7/25	Wellfleet	1 imm.	CAG
Marsh Hawk:			
thr. July	S. Wellfleet (WBWS)	pair	WVB
7/19,30	Marshfield, Monomoy	1 f., 1	WRP,BBC(CJ)
Osprey:			
6/3,10	Plymouth, Saugus	1,1	BBC(HD'E),CJ
6/11,15,21	W. Bridgewater, Newburyport	singles	WRP,RSH,BB
	Boston		
7/15-16	Cohasset	1	AAT

GROUSE AND RAILS

Ruffed Grouse:			
6/17,24	Hingham, Lancaster	1 ad. + sev'1 yg., 1 f. + 5 yg.	R. Campbell, HLM
6/27	Foxboro	1 ad. + 8 yg.	RMB
Bobwhite:			
thr. June	Manomet, Westwood	6+, 4	RSH, JJC
6/13,17	Sharon, <u>Lancaster</u>	1,2	RMB, HLM
Virginia Rail:			
thr. June, 17	S. Wellfleet (WBWS), Concord (GMNWR)	1,3	DF#, BBC(AC & NC)
6/17,24	Rowley	1 dead, 1	JWB
7/5,16	Woburn (Horn Pond), P.I.	1, 3 calling	GWG, GLS#
7/29	Concord (GMNWR)	1 ad. & 3 yg.	BBC(EWT)
Sora:			
6/11	W. Bridgewater	3	WRP
7/7	P.I.	3 ads. & 1 juv. banded	JWB#
7/30	W. Bridgewater	2	WRP
Common Gallinule:			
7/3,17	P.I., Concord (GMNWR)	3-4 ads., 3-4 yg., 3	JWB; RKW
American Coot:			
7/29	P.I.	4 ads. + sev'1 yg.	RPE#

SHOREBIRDS

American Oystercatchers were noted in usual numbers at Monomoy, with at least 3-4 pairs having nested on the island. Although Oystercatchers were observed at several localities north of Monomoy (Nauset, S. Wellfleet, Duxbury), none were proven breeders. No reports were received concerning the populations at Nantucket, Tuckernuck, or Martha's Vineyard. Although last February's brutal storm played havoc with beach and coastal dwellings, it also provided ideal nesting habitat for Piping Plover and Least Tern. Broad, sandy, washed-over areas where much of the beach rose and dune grass vegetation has been killed can be found at Monomoy, many places on the Outer Cape, Duxbury, Plymouth, Scituate, and the south end of P.I., to name a few. As a result of this increased habitat these two species appeared to have had a successful breeding season this summer. Almost annual now is the appearance of Wilson's Plover in late May/early June. Two sightings occurred this year, both on June 3: one at Nauset, and another on Plymouth Beach which remained until the following day. Higher than usual numbers of basic plumaged Black-bellied Plover were present on Monomoy and P.I. in late June and during July, perhaps indicative of a successful breeding season last year. Willets continue to increase locally with three pairs defending territory on Monomoy, and one or two pairs again exhibiting territoriality at Plum Bush, Newburyport, as they did last year. Despite this, they are still unconfirmed as breeders at the latter location, even though their defensive behavior strongly suggests nesting. Willets built up to a maximum of 22 on Monomoy in late July. Lesser Yellowlegs and most Calidris shorebirds were generally a week or more behind schedule, possibly due to the late spring reported, and what was said to be a poor breeding season in some arctic regions this year. Relative counts of juveniles in August and September should confirm or disprove this belief. An excellent count of 2200 Short-billed Dowitchers was made at Newburyport on July 18, and sizeable flocks were also encountered at Plymouth and Monomoy, during what was considered to be one of the best flights in years. Birders are cautioned to use care in identifying July and early August Long-billed Dowitchers, since the L.g.hendersoni race of the Short-billed Dowitchers also has the orange color of the underparts extending fully to the undertail coverts. However, unlike Long-billeds, this race lacks barring on the sides of the upper breast, has a more golden-appearing dorsum, and has call notes identical to those of the nominate Short-billed Dowitchers. The hendersoni race represents 2-4% of our July dowitchers. Two authentic, early Long-billed Dowitchers were discovered at Hellcat, South Pool, P.I., on July 18, and 3 adults were present there on the 21st. Only one adult Western Sandpiper was found during the period, at Scituate July 22-24. Following the best spring flight ever, late, lingering White-rumped Sandpipers were found at several localities, and numbered 11 individuals. The shorebird highlight of the period was a Black-necked Stilt, which made a brief appearance on Nantucket on the 12th of June.

American Oystercatcher:

thr. June-July	Monomoy, Nauset	12+ads. & 3 chicks, max, 5	BN#
6/4, 30	Duxbury Beach, S. Wellfleet (WBWS)	2, 2	G. Wood, WWB
7/3, 30	Nantucket, Duxbury	2, 1	FB, RKW#

Semipalmated Plover:			
7/5,16,17	Scituate,Newburyport Barnstable(S.N.)	3,8,30	WRP,RRV,MFL,BAL
7/24,30	P.I.,Monomoy	25,200	BBC(SDH),BBC(CJ)
7/31	Duxbury;New Is.,Nauset	28;135	RKW;PT
Piping Plover;			
6/4,11,24	Plymouth,Monomoy,Ipswich	10,8 prs.	SSBC(MJB),RSH, BBC(JN)
		1 chick & 1 nest	
7/5,10	Scituate;P.I.	12;6+ads.,2 yg.	WRP;v.o.
thr.July	Monomoy	50	v.o.
7/18,24	Barnstable(S.N.),Ipswich	12,16	BAL,MFL,JWB
Wilson's Plover:			
6/3,3-4	Nauset,Plymouth Beach	1,1	BN & PT, WRP, HD'E#
Killdeer:			
6/17,29	Rowley,Westboro	2 ads.& nest,16-18 ads.	JWB,MD
7/10,17	P.I.	10,15	BBC(GLS),BBC(HLJ)
7/16,30	Concord(GMNWR),W.Bridgewater Halifax	20,66	BBC(BC),WRP
American Golden Plover:			
7/6,12	Duxbury,Plymouth	1,1(both basic)	RSH
7/23	Monomoy	1 (alt.plu.)	CJ
Black-bellied Plover:			
6/4,11,15	Monomoy,Newburyport	8,60 basic,4	RRV,RSH,RSH
7/22,23	Duxbury,Monomoy	45,200	RKW,CJ
7/31	New Is.,Nauset;Duxbury	25;31	PT;RKW
Ruddy Turnstone:			
6/3,4,23	Plymouth,Monomoy,Ipswich	8,30,4	BBC(HD'E),RRV,JN
7/3,30	Monomoy	25,25	GWG,BBC(CJ)
7/29	Winthrop,P.I.	10,5	CJ,RPE#
American Woodcock:			
7/1,2	Holliston,Bolton	1,1	J.Marshfield, BBC(HLM)
7/10,18	P.I.,Barnstable	2,1	GLS,GAW#
Common Snipe:			
6/3	Whitman	2	WRP
7/26,30	Concord(GMNWR),W.Bridgewater	1,1	MJL,WRP
Whimbrel:			
7/3,9,29	P.I.	24;1,2	BBC(GLS);RMB
7/23,30;24	Monomoy;Ipswich	3,3;1	BBC(CJ);JWB
Upland Sandpiper:			
6/17-25,19	Newburyport,Lancaster	2,1	NBK#,HLM
6/27-on	Marshfield	pair nesting	WRP
7/10-31	Newburyport	4 ads.& 5 juvs.	v.o.
7/30	Halifax,Framingham	2,1	WRP,RAF
Spotted Sandpiper:			
7/16;29	Concord(GMNWR);Woburn	9,7;5	BBC(BC),BBC(EWT); GWG
thr,July	7 localities	13 individuals	v.o.
Solitary Sandpiper:			
7/3,16,25	S.Peabody,Concord(GMNWR), Woburn	1,5,4	RSH,BBC(BC),GWG
7/29,30	Concord(GMNWR),W.Bridgewater	7,15	RAF,WRP

Willet:			
thr. June	Monomoy	max. 11	RSH#
		(3 territorial prs.)	
6/21,25	Barnstable(S.N.), Newburyport	2,3-4	RFP,HLM
7/2-24,16	Newburyport(Plum Bush), P.I.		
		1-2 territorial prs., 1	v.o., JG#
7/6;13,27	Duxbury; Monomoy	1;7,22	RSH;RRV,RSH
Greater Yellowlegs:			
6/20,26	S. Dartmouth, P.I.	1,8	RPE#,BBC(SDH)
7/23,30	Monomoy	1,20	RRV#,CJ#
7/10,16	Newburyport	15,20	GLS#,RRV#
Lesser Yellowlegs:			
6/26,29	P.I., Westboro	2,1	BBC(SDH),MD
7/13,18,30	Newburyport	740,500,850	RSH,WRP,RSH
7/14,29	Concord(GMNWR)	3,15	RKW,RAF
Red Knot:			
6/4	Monomoy	50	RRV,MJL
7/30,31	Monomoy, New Is., Nauset	220,2200	CJ,PT
7/30	P.I.	40	RSH
Pectoral Sandpiper:			
7/16-on,21	Concord(GMNWR), P.I.	2-9,2	v.o., RSH
White-rumped Sandpiper:			
6/4,10,15	Monomoy, Marion, P.I.	1,1,9	RRV#,RAF#,RSH
7/31	New Is., Nauset	3	PT
Least Sandpiper:			
7/14-on	Concord(GMNWR)	21-105	v.o.
7/16-on	Newburyport	200+	v.o.
Dunlin:			
7/18-30,27	P.I., Monomoy	2,1	WRP#,RSH
Short-billed Dowitcher:			
7/18;26,27	Newburyport; Plymouth, Monomoy	2200;870,1500	WRP;RSH
Long-billed Dowitcher:			
7/18,21	P.I.	2 alt. plu. ads., 3	WRP,RSH
Stilt Sandpiper:			
7/3-29	P.I.	max. 53 (7/23)	WRP,RAF#
7/16,29	Rowley, Concord(GMNWR)	3,1	RSH,RAF
Semipalmated Sandpiper:			
6/3,4	Plymouth, Monomoy	70,300	BBC(HD'E),RRV#
7/2,5	P.I., Scituate	1,1	RRV,WRP
7/30;31	Newburyport, Monomoy; New Is.	2000,500; 400	RSH,CJ;PT
Western Sandpiper:			
7/22,24	Scituate	1 ad.	WRP
Marbled Godwit:			
7/16,30	Monomoy	1	v.o.
Hudsonian Godwit:			
7/8-on	P.I., -Newburyport	max. 53 (7/31)	SG#
7/3-on,12	Monomoy, Scituate	max. 70+, 3	v.o., WRP#
Ruff:			
7/16,22	P.I., Duxbury	1 basic m., 1	RSH#,RKW
Sanderling:			
6/4	Monomoy	125	RRV,MJL
7/24,29	Ipswich, Concord(GMNWR)	250+, 1	JWB,RAF

Black-necked Stilt:

6/12	Nantucket(Quaise)	1	Wesley Tiffany
<u>Wilson's Phalarope:</u>			
7/3-21	P.I.	1-2	GLS
7/23-29	Concord(GMNWR)	1	BC#
<u>Northern Phalarope:</u>			
7/9	Off Gloucester	4	EP,SG

JAEGERS AND SKUAS

Fourteen Pomarine Jaegers were encountered on the BBC boat trip off Chatham on June 4, a surprising total for coastal waters. An adult Long-tailed Jaeger was carefully observed for thirty minutes, as it occasionally pursued a Wilson's Storm Petrel on the southeast part of Georges Bank June 7. During June, five or six South Polar Skuas (Catharacta maccormickii) were identified on Georges Bank; all were described as being uniformly colored (i.e., no pale edging or shaft streaks in body plumage) with pronounced pale nuchal collars, diagnostic in itself of C.maccormickii.

Pomarine Jaeger:

6/4,22	Off Chatham,9 mi.SW of Gay Head	<u>14</u> ,1 ad.	BBC(HD'E),RSH
7/4	Barnstable (S.N.)	3	RFP
<u>Parasitic Jaeger:</u>			
6/4,24	Off Chatham,Barnstable	3,1	BBC(HD'E),MFL,BAL
7/1	Barnstable(S.N.),Scusset	5,1	RRV#,WRP
7/4,31	P.I.(s.end)	1,3	RMB#,SG
7/11	Scituate	1	WRP
<u>Long-tailed Jaeger:</u>			
6/7	S.E.part of Georges Bank	1 ad.	RRV
<u>South Polar Skua: (Catharacta maccormickii)</u>			
6/7-13	Georges Bank	5-6+	RRV
<u>Skua sp.</u>			
6/7-13,27	Georges Bank,10 mi.S.W. of Martha's Vineyard	2-5,1	RRV,V.Laux

GULLS, TERNS, ALCIDS

The Laughing Gull colony at the north end of Monomoy Island has increased in number and extent in recent years, and was estimated to contain 300 nesting pairs this summer. The presence of summering, sub-adult Black-legged Kittiwakes on Monomoy is a recent phenomenon of the last four or five years. Many of these birds apparently don't survive the entire summer, as several mortalities in past years have indicated.

The following table contains estimates of breeding pairs of birds at two major ternaries in the state: Bird Island, Marion, and Monomoy Island, Chatham. Included are approximate figures for the number of young successfully fledged per pair (I.C.T.Nisbet).

Bird Island,Marion

Common Tern	500 pairs	1.9 yg./pair
Roseate Tern	1290 pairs	1.5 yg./pair

Monomoy Island, Chatham

Common Tern	1900 pairs	0.8 yg./pair
Roseate Tern	290 pairs	1.2 yg./pair
Arctic Tern	15 pairs	0.2 yg./pair

A portlandica (one-year-old) Common Tern was observed on Monomoy June 12; portlandica Commons normally summer in the winter quarters, so this is quite unusual to occur in the Northeast. Portlandica Arctic Terns, on the other hand, regularly summer in the vicinity of the adult breeding colonies. Numbers of Arctic Terns in this plumage were encountered during June at Monomoy and Plymouth. Nesting Arctic Terns have steadily decreased at Monomoy in recent years, and a mere three young were fledged this summer. The species' last "stronghold" in the state is Nomans Land, where there are about 30 pairs. The Roseate Tern colony at Bird Island, numbering nearly 1300 pairs, is the largest nesting colony of that species in the U.S. A sub-adult Sandwich Tern was discovered on the flats at Monomoy June 11; this species was last recorded July 11-28, 1976, also on Monomoy. A breeding-plumaged Black Guillemot at Rockport July 4 suggests the possibility of local breeding; Guillemots have bred at Biddeford Pool, Maine, less than 55 miles to the north. A breeding-plumaged guillemot was noted at Andrews Pt. June 10, 1977.

Iceland Gull:

7/2	Monomoy	1	BN, CAG, V. Laux
<u>Black-headed Gull:</u>			
6/4	Monomoy	1 (one-yr-old)	RRV, MJL
7/16, 31	P.I., Newburyport	1, 1	RRV#, BBC(PA)
<u>Laughing Gull:</u>			
6/4, 12	Monomoy, Beverly	150, 1	RRV, GLS
thr. June, July		300 nesting pairs	ICTN#
<u>Bonaparte's Gull:</u>			
6/5	Ipswich (Crane's Beach)	110	BBC (JWB)
7/16	P.I.	80	RRV#
<u>Little Gull:</u>			
6/26	P.I.	1 ad.	BBC (SDH)
7/22	Newburyport	1 ad.	RSH
<u>Black-legged Kittiwake:</u>			
6/4	Off Chatham, Monomoy (n. end)	132, 85	BBC (HD'E), RRV#
6/4, 10	Provincetown	400, 80+	CAG, BN
7/3, 27; 5	Monomoy; Provincetown	6, 2; 6	GWG, RSH; RSH
<u>Forster's Tern:</u>			
6/13, 14	Monomoy	1	P. Alden#
7/10, 29-30	P.I.	1, 1	BBC (GLS), GWG#
<u>Arctic Tern:</u>			
6/4	Plymouth	35 (10 portlandica)	RRV, MJL
6/12	Monomoy	22 portlandica	RSH, ICTN
7/16-30	P.I., (s, end)	1 ad.	RSH#
<u>Roseate Tern:</u>			
7/10-30	P.I.	1-6	v.o.
<u>Least Tern:</u>			
6/4	Monomoy, Plymouth	50, 30	RRV#, MFL
6/24	Ipswich (Crane's Beach)	80+	BBC (JN)
7/5, 10	Scituate, P.I.	30 pairs, 60	WRP, v.o.
7/30	Monomoy	100	CJ

Royal Tern:				
6/14;21	Barnstable;Woods Hole, Monomoy	2;2,2	RFP;RSH,BN	
7/8,9-29; mid-July	P.I.;Sandwich	1,1-2;1	RMB#;PT	
7/8	Nauset	1	BN,CAG	
<u>Sandwich Tern:</u>				
6/11	Monomoy	1 sub-ad.	ICTN	
Black Tern:				
6/4	Plymouth Beach	1	SH	
7/11-24	Scituate	1-2	WRP	
7/15-30,17	P.I.,Monomoy	1-2,1	SG#,HLM#	
Black Skimmer:				
6/14-30,23 thr.July	Monomoy,Sampson's Is. Monomoy	1,1 max.3	v.o.,J.Grandpre' v.o.	
7/20,29	Ipswich,P.I.	1,1	RMc,PP#	
<u>large alcid sp.</u>				
7/4	Rockport(Andrews Pt.)	2	GLS#	
<u>Black Guillemot:</u>				
7/4	Rockport(Andrews Pt.)	1(breeding plu.)	GLS#	

CUCKOOS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

The first ground-nesting Common Nighthawks to be discovered in Massachusetts since 1908 (Griscom and Snyder) were found at Plymouth's Myles Standish State Forest. Two nests were found of the apparent three pairs that were on territory there. Nighthawks have probably been breeding at that locality for some time, but being infrequently birded, had gone undiscovered until this summer. No report was received concerning the Red-bellied Woodpeckers that bred last year in Adamsdale, but as mentioned in the previous issue, the Natick birds that established the first state nesting record in 1977 were usurped by Starlings. The first recent Essex Co. breeding record, and one of the few for the state, for Red-headed Woodpeckers, came from Lynn, where two food-carrying adults and several recently fledged young were observed in early July.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo:				
thr.June	8 localities	15 individuals	v.o.	
thr.July	5 localities	singles	v.o.	
Black-billed Cuckoo:				
thr.June	10 localities	11 individuals	v.o.	
thr.July	7 localities	9 individuals	v.o.	
Screech Owl:				
6/17	Belmont;Lexington	1 ad.,2yg.;3	RHS#;LET#	
Barred Owl:				
6/3,9;17	Lancaster;Waltham	1 yg.,1 ad.;1	HLM;M,Curtis#	
Common Nighthawk:				
thr.June	Cambridge,Waltham	5 pr.,1 pr,	RHS	
thr.July	Plymouth(MSSF)	3 pr,-2 ground	MPS,AWH,v.o,	
	nests found -- only recent ground-nesting Night- Hawks in the state			
Pileated Woodpecker:				
7/17,19,31	Millis,Dover,Lincoln	1,pr.,1	JHM,G,Pierce, C,Thissell	

Red-headed Woodpecker:

6/13-16,17 Wellesley,Provincetown 1 ad.,1 imm. BC,BN#
 7/3 Lynn 2 ads, + 2-3 yg,RSH
 (only recent Essex Co, breeding record)

PASSERINES

The Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas, sponsored by the Massachusetts Audubon Society and the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has been extended for another year. After the 1978 results are tabulated, 95% of the state will have had coverage, leaving about 50 blocks with no coverage to be worked on during 1979.

The two separate reports of singing Tennessee Warblers in less than ideal habitat of Canton and Lexington during July was most interesting. A number of lingering reports of both crossbills and Evening Grosbeaks were also remarkable, although no confirmed nesting was recorded. A pair of Evening Grosbeaks was observed in the process of building a nest, but unfortunately, that was all that became of it. The following noteworthy reports of the breeding season are:

Eastern Kingbird:

6/17,26 Greater Boston,P.I. 84,25 GBBBC,BBC(SDH)
 7/17 P.I. 50 BBC(LHJ)

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:

6/1,3 Middlesex Fells,Saugus 2,1 IG,CJ

Acadian Flycatcher:

6/4,7 Chatham,Sandwich 1,1 RRV#,RFP
 6/10 Provincetown,N.edge of Georges Bank 1,1 BN,RRV
 6/10-12,16 W.Newbury,Chatham 1,1 NBK# & v.o.,BN

Willow Flycatcher:

thr.June 10 localities 29 individuals v.o.
 6/17 Greater Boston 16 individuals GBBBC

Alder Flycatcher:

6/2,4 Lexington,Lancaster 2,1 JA,HLM
 6/8,22 Brookfield,Ashburnham 2,1 RAF,RAF

Least Flycatcher:

6/3 E.Middleboro,Halifax 3 m.,1 m. KSA
 (1 nest found in E.Middleboro)

Eastern Wood Pewee:

6/3 Boston(Copps'Hill,North End) 4 LET

Olive-sided Flycatcher:

6/3,10 P.I.,Provincetown 2,1 GWG,BN
 6/22 Ashburnham 1 RAF

Horned Lark:

6/13 Fitchburg(airport) 1 singing RAF,HLM

Tree Swallow:

7/17 P.I. 1000 BBC(HLJ)

Bank Swallow:

thr.June Rowley 100+ JWB,v.o.
 6/24 E.Middleboro 80 nesting holes, KSA
 most in use
 7/17 Concord(GMNWR) 150 BBC(BC)

Cliff Swallow:				
6/11,6/12-7/17	W.Bridgewater,P.I.	1,pr.nesting	WRP,v.o.	
7/16	Concord(GMNWR)	3	BBC(BC)	
Purple Martin:				
thr.June & July	P.I.	max.82+	v.o.	
7/29	S.Carver	80+	WRP#	
Blue Jay:				
6/4,17	Chatham,Greater Boston	250 migrating,	RRV#,GBBBC	
		200		
Fish Crow:				
6/17	Mt.Auburn,Cambridge	2 w/2 yg.	RHS	
thr.July	Plymouth	25+	RSH	
<u>Short-billed Marsh Wren:</u>				
6/27-28	Tewksbury	1	RRV,MJL	
American Robin:				
7/17	Hingham	1 pure albino fledged	<u>fide</u> WRP	
Hermit Thrush:				
thr.June-July	Plymouth(MSSF)	20+ singing	RSH	
Eastern Bluebird:				
<u>nesting pairs</u> in Annisquam with 4 yg.(HTW);E.Middleboro(KSA);Westboro,				
with 4 yg.(MD);Ashburnham (RAF);Woburn (GWG);Boxford,2 prs. (RHS#);				
Middleboro (KSA#)				
other reports:				
6/11,17	W.Bridgewater,Lancaster	1,1	WRP,HLM	
6/21	Framingham,Sudbury	1,4	RAF	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:				
6/1-3,17	Cambridge(Mt.A.),Groton	2,2	RHS,HLM	
6/17	Middlesex Fells	6	PMR,JSR	
6/18,29	Ipswich,Westboro	nesting pair,	JWB,MD	
		pr.feeding yg.		
Golden-crowned Kinglet:				
6/2	Mt.Watatic	3	HLM	
White-eyed Vireo:				
6/2,5+24	Lexington,Ipswich	2,1+1	JA,BBC(JWB,JN)	
6/12-7/13	Millis	2	RMB	
6/12-on,6/30	W.Newbury,Fairhaven	1-2,3	GLS#,RAF	
thr.June,July	Manomet	4	RSH	
Yellow-throated Vireo:				
6/4-on,6	Lincoln,Stow	1,1	WWH,RAF	
6/8+11	Holliston(Waseeka)	1,1	RMB,RAF	
6/21,23+24	Woods Hole,Sherborn	1,1+2	RSH,JHM	
6/24,27	Carlisle,Southbridge	1,1	RRV#,RAF	
7/7	Harvard	1	HLM	
Solitary Vireo:				
6/8,10-on	Boxboro,Lancaster	2,nesting pr.	RAF,HLM	
Red-eyed Vireo:				
6/17	Greater Boston	76	GBBBC	
<u>Warbling Vireo:</u>				
thr.June	Provincetown-Beech Forest	3	BN,CAG#	
The Warbling Vireo has never been recorded nesting on Cape Cod, and previously there had been only one vague summer report.				
Worm-eating Warbler:				
6/10,7/8-15	Dover,E.Douglas	1,1	FRH,N.E.Muller#	
			& v.o.	

Golden-winged Warbler:			
thr. June	Framingham, Ashland	1,1	RAF
6/1,4	Millbury, Lancaster	1,1	N, E, Muller, HLM
6/12+7/8, 6/18	W, Newbury, N, Andover	4+2,2	WCD & WRP, SDH#
Blue-winged Warbler:			
7/3	W. Newbury	1 ad. feeding 2 yg.	RHS#
<u>Tennessee Warbler:</u>			
7/2	Canton	1-2	BAL, MFL, WRP, KSA
		(male singing steadily)	
7/8	Lexington	1 male singing	MDB
Nashville Warbler:			
6/9, 19	Carver, Marlboro	3,1	RSH, RAF
Northern Parula:			
6/13-16	Mashpee	1	WRP
Yellow Warbler:			
6/5, 17	Ipswich, Greater Boston	20+, 95	BBC(JWB), GBBBC
Blackburnian Warbler:			
6/27	Charlton	1	RAF
Chestnut-sided Warbler:			
7/1	Framingham	pr. feeding cowbird	MD
Pine Warbler:			
6/6+21	Sudbury	1,3(territorial)	RAF
6/8, 17	Boxboro, Lancaster	1(territorial), 1	RAF, HLM
6/17, 20	Ipswich, Marlboro	5, 1(territorial)	BBC(JWB), RAF
7/1, 5	S. Natick, Holliston	1, 1	JHM, MD
7/15	Hopkinton	2	JHM
Prairie Warbler:			
6/3-11	Norfolk	nest w/3 yg.	RMB
Northern Waterthrush:			
6/24	E. Middleboro	1 singing	KSA
Louisiana Waterthrush:			
7/16	Barre (Cooks Canyon)	1	HLM
Mourning Warbler:			
6/2+3	P. I.; Middlesex Fells	1+2; 1+1	GWG, RPE; PMR#, NBK#
6/10	Sandwich	1	RFP
Canada Warbler:			
7/5	Holliston	2	MD
American Redstart:			
6/3	P. I.	25	RPE#
Bobolink:			
6/18	Hamilton	20, inc. nest w/ yg.	JWB
7/2, 21	Bolton	20, 120+	HIM
Orchard Oriole:			
thr. June	Woburn, Waltham	3-6(inc. yg.), 2	GWG + v. o., RHS
6/3	Whitman, Framingham	1, 1 im. m.	WRP, RAF
6/4, 6	S. Peabody, Stow	1 im. m., 1 im. m.	RSH, RAF
6/18, 24	W. Bridgewater, Rowley	1, 1	WRP#, JWB
7/1-16	Waltham	1 ad. m.	RHS#
7/2	Braintree (Great Pond)	pr. w/ yg.	KSA#
7/22	Rowley	2 ad. m., 1 f., 1 yg	EP#
Northern Oriole:			
6/17	Greater Boston	111	GBBBC
Scarlet Tanager:			
6/17	Greater Boston	19	GBBBC

Indigo Bunting:			
6/17	Greater Boston	32	GBBBC
Evening Grosbeak:			
6/1-11,29	Chatham (at feeder)	1 f,	BN
House Finch:			
6/14	Fitchburg(Burbank Hospital)	5+ pr.nesting in ivy	RAF
Pine Siskin:			
6/11,18	Sharon	2	RAF,DC
6/17,28,7/1	Wellesley	4-5,1,1	LJR
Red Crossbill:			
6/2	Lexington	9	JA
White-winged Crossbill:			
7/1	Fall River	1	EA,TA
	(well-observed for five minutes at close range)		
Rufous-sided Towhee:			
6/17	Greater Boston	107	GBBBC
Grasshopper Sparrow:			
7/15-on	Bolton	1	HLM
Sharp-tailed Sparrow:			
6/17	Squantum,Saugus	14,4	DTB#,SZ#
7/29	E.Boston	5	CJ
Seaside Sparrow:			
7/8	Newburyport	1	SG,EP
Vesper Sparrow:			
thr.July	Plymouth(Myles Standish)	<u>28</u>	MBO staff
	(includes nest with 4 yg.)		
White-throated Sparrow:			
6/24	E.Middleboro	1	KSA
7/30	Halifax	1	WRP
Song Sparrow:			
6/17	Greater Boston	205	GBBBC

ADDENDUM

Yellow-rumped Warbler:
thr.6/78 Plymouth(MSSF) 2 adult males singing; MBO staff
one seen carrying food
on two occasions; no
nest found

CORRIGENDUM

Vol.6,No.4(Spring):

Common Crow: date reads 5/11; should read 3/11.

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TA	Thomas Athearn	MM	Michael Martinek
AAt	Alex Atwood	MHM	Martha H. McClellan
WWB	W. Wallace Bailey	RMc	Richard McHale
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MDB	Mary D. Baird	BN	Blair Nikula
JWB	James W. Berry	ICTN	Ian C.T. Nisbet
BB	Bradford Blodgett	JN	John Nove
FB	Fred Bouchard	PP	Philip Parsons
DTB	David T. Brown	RFP	Robert F. Pease
PRB	Paul R. Buckley	WRP	Wayne R. Petersen
RMB	Richard M. Butler	EP	Evelyn Pyburn
BC	Brian Cassie	JSR	Julie S. Roberts
GC	George Champoux	PMR	Paul M. Roberts
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JJC	John J. Clancy	SS	Stewart Sanders
UC	Ursulla Clancy	GLS	Gerald L. Soucy
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AAC	Anne A. Clarke	RHS	Robert H. Stymeist
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NC	Nancy Clayton	EWT	Eliot W. Taylor
VD	Virginia Day	LET	Lee E. Taylor
GD'E	Glenn D'Entremont	BT	Barbara Treat
HD'E	Herman D'Entremont	PT	Peter Trull
WCD	William C. Drummond	RRV	Richard R. Veit
MD	Michael Duffy	RKW	Richard K. Walton
RPE	Ruth P. Emery	HTW	Henry T. Wiggin
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RAF	Richard A. Forster	SZ	Soheil Zende
SG	Stella Garrett		
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CAG	Carl A. Goodrich	GBBBC	Greater Boston Breeding Bird Count
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